

Squashing the Worm

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Agenda

- ♦ The Problem(s)
- ♦ Some Solutions



The Big Problem

- ◆ Time between discovery of vulnerability and exploit has diminished to a very small window of time
 - Not much time (or none) to test patches before deployment
 - Given how we do business today, it's hard to catch all clients before they are infected



Slammer:

A Good Example of a Bad Thing

- ◆ Attack on MS SQL Server, UDP/1434
 - Patch previously available
 - Good patching operations for servers in place
 - Rare to find SQL directly exposed to Internet
 - Easy to block UDP/1434 at the firewall *Sounds like a no-brainer, right?*



Slammer:

Why was it so serious?

- ◆ Also attacked MSDE on the client, UDP/1434
 - MSDE installed by user apps front-ending it, most customers not sure where it was installed and how many instances
 - Client machines all over the place
- ◆ Customers locked down firewalls—those who didn't weren't patched were nailed by infected clients coming in over VPN



Lessons Learned To Date

- ♦ You *must* manage both servers and clients
- ♦ You *must* have testing/patching operations in place
- You should know how to protect clients until they can be patched
 - Block the attack on the client if possible
- Protect all points of access
 - Authenticate all machines before they get to your network to prevent rogue machines from entering
- Regularly monitor machines for security state, including those coming in over VPN/dial-up



Managing Clients for Security

- Baseline Your Clients for a Secure Configuration
 - Windows 2000 Baseline Security Checklist http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/tools/chklist/w2kprocl.asp
 - Windows XP Baseline Security Checklists
 http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/tools/chklist/xpcl.asp



Managing Clients for Security

- Regularly scan for
 - The correct service pack or the latest security patches installed
 - The correct antivirus software and signature files installed
 - Firewall software installed and active on the Internet interface (be sure you can automatically disable this on the LAN)
 - A password-protected screensaver with an adequate wait time
 - Routing disabled (remote access clients)



Patching Options

Feature Area	Windows Update	SUS 1.0 SP1	SMS with SUS Feature Pack
Centralized administration	Poor. Computers install updates selected by user.	Good. Updates approved by administrator.	Best. Updates approved by administrator and specifically targeted.
Central inventory	Poor. No central inventory or assessment.	Poor. No central inventory or assessment.	Best. Customizable central inventory for hardware, software, and vulnerabilities.
Software coverage	Good. All types of Windows updates. Windows only.	Fair*. Security patches, critical updates, updates, and update rollups. Windows only.	Best. Distributes any software or software updates to SMS clients.
Cost	Free.	Free.	License fees required.
Windows operating systems	Good. Windows 98, Windows 98 SE, Windows Millennium Edition, Windows XP, Windows 2000, and Windows 2003.	Fair. Windows XP, Windows 2000, and Windows 2003.	Best. Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 98 SE, Windows Millennium Edition, Windows NT® 4.0, Windows XP, Windows 2000, and Windows 2003.
Reporting	Poor. No central reporting.	Fair. Some central reporting through log files.	Best. Built-in Web reports and customizable reports.
Architecture and install	Easy. Client configuration only; no other infrastructure.	Easy. Simple server architecture: easy client setup.	Hard. Complex architecture and services installation.



Block the Attack on the Client (Interim Protection)

◆ IPSec

- Wire protocol for securing communications
- You can require authenticated/encrypted connection
- You can BLOCK ports/protocols (used to protect against Slammer and later RPC worms)
- Built into Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, managed via command-line, script or Active Directory group policy
- Very powerful...you'll need to understand implications of blocking well in advance, particularly if IPSec policy is already deployed



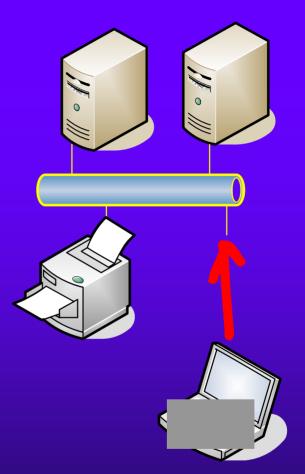
Authenticating Machines Before They Join the Network

- ♦ 802.1x on Wired Networks
 - Authentication protocol works with smart network devices to determine if client should be allowed on the network
 - Prevents rogue machines from accessing the network
 - Can use certificates or integrated-Windows authentication
 - In addition, when used with VLAN, machines can be restricted to particular areas of the network based on group membership of either machine or user



Wired Networks

- •A visitor/attacker attaches to an open network tap. He gets an IP address. If he is infected with a worm and your machines aren't patched—you're probably toasted.
- •If he has deliberate malicious intent, he can poke around the network for goodies.





802.1x on Wired Networks: Components

- Active Directory domain
- ◆ RADIUS Server (actually 2 of them for redundancy) with certificates installed
- Wired remote access policy
- Multiple authentication switches (must support 802.1x and RADIUS)
- Certificate Services if using certs for authentication
- ◆ Works with Windows XP, Windows 2000, downlevel clients (Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT 4.0 for customers with Premier support)



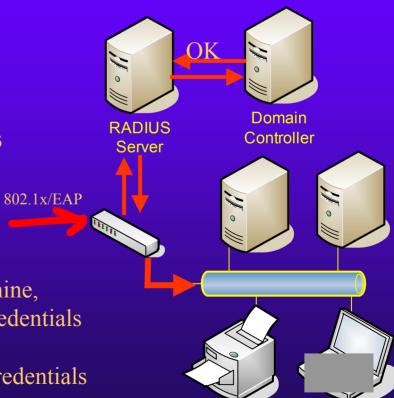
802.1x on Wired Networks

•Client connects and is sandboxed until his credentials are verified

Use both machine and user auth, to run logon scripts

•Guest access can accommodate machines that do not authenticate

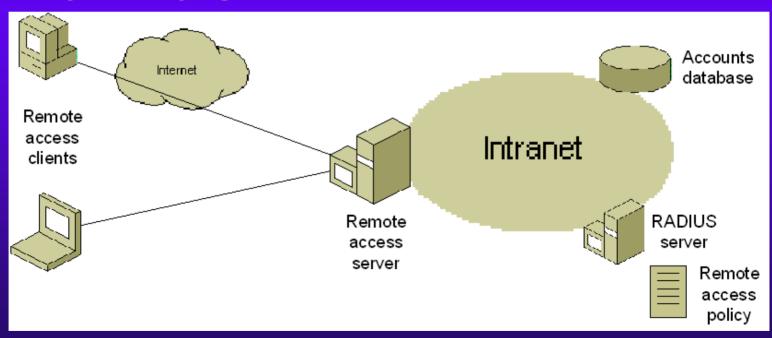
I'm BobsMachine, here are my credentials I'm Bob, Here are my credentials





Incoming VPN Clients

Your user/machine is legit, but his machine may be carrying a worm



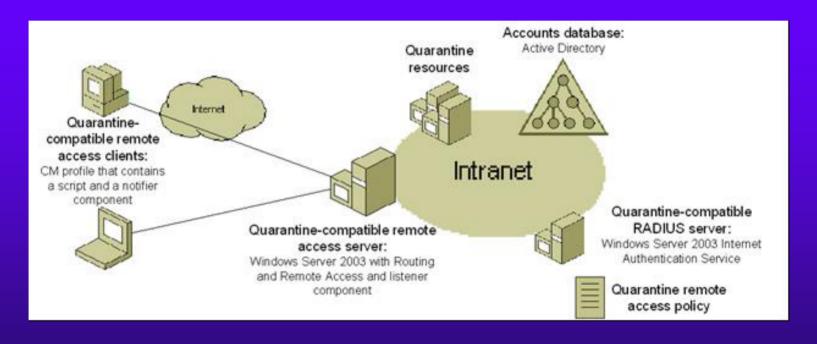


Scanning VPN Clients

- Network Access Quarantine Control
 - New in Windows Server 2003
 - Delays normal remote access to a private network until the configuration of the remote access computer has been examined and validated by an administrator-provided script.



Scanning Incoming VPN Clients for Security State





Questions?



Where do you want to go today?"

